Losses suffered by Coal Companies

*154. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA :

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal Companies in the country are running into heavy losses due to the mismanagement and non payment of its heavy dues by different Public Sector Undertakings/resulting in non-implementation of modernisation plan in the colleries ;

(b) if so, whether any concrete programme has been chalked out to check the heavy losses being incurred by the Coal Companies and for the phased modernisation of the colleries ; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof stating the time by which all its dues are anticipated to be recovered and the modernisation plan would be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) to (c) The performance of Coal India Limited (CIL) has improved and it has shown profit for last two consecutive years. This has been made possible by better management of resources, speedier implementation of modernisation plans.

Modernisation of the coal industry is an on-going process and it is sought to be achieved by application of modern mining technologies specially in opencast mining including use of dumper-shovel combination both for overburden removal and coal extractions, draglines for OB removal and crushers-conveyors combination for OB removal and coal extraction etc. In the case of underground mining, the choice of technology depends upon factors such as depth and thickness of coal seam, gradient and multiplicity of seams, presence of worked out old mines, etc. Mechanisation of bord and pillers, powered support to longwall faces, sub-level caving, blasting gallery method, shield mining, etc. have been adopted. It is true that the plans and projects of CIL including modernisation could have been implemented faster with better resource availability. As regards outstandings, one of the main reasons for non-clearance of coal bills is the financial constraints faced by the power utilities. Following are the important steps being taken to recover the outstanding dues :—

(i) All power units commissioned after 1-4-1989 are being supplied coal only against advance payments or against revolving Letter of Credit.

(ii) Government of India have decided to adjust all undisputed coal sales outstanding as on 31-5-1990 against the Central Assistance to State Plans payable to the State Governments whose State Electricity Boards and Power Utilities and defaulted, in four equal instalments.

(iii) As a result of mounting arrears of outstanding dues, Ministry of Coal advised Coal India Limited to start supplying coal to the Power Utilities only against advance payments. This scheme which is better known as Cash and Carry Scheme was introduced with effect from 1-10-1991.

(iv) State Governments have been requested to persuade/enable their State Electricity Boards to clear the outstanding dues at the earliest.

लोह अयस्क का निर्यात

*155. **श्री अजीत जोगी :**

155. क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1991-92 के दौरान गोवा से किस-किस श्रेणी के लौह अयस्क का कितनी-कितनी मात्रा में तथा कितने-कितने मूल्य का निर्यात किया गया ; और

(ख) लौह-अयस्क के निर्यात को बढ़ावा देने के लिए इसके निर्यातकों को कौन-कौन